30. (New) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular members comprise structural supports.

A1 Cont.

31. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the tubular members comprise wellbore casings.

32. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the tubular members comprise pipes.

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33. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the tubular members comprise structural supports.

34. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tubular members comprise wellbore casings.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tubular members comprise pipes.

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36. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tubular members comprise structural supports.

37. (New) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:

a pair of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one another; and

a quantity of a sealant within the threaded portions of the tubular members;

wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;

wherein the sealant includes an initial cure cycle and a final cure cycle;

wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent without failure;

wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials;

wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F; and

wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer for improving the adhesion of the sealant to the threaded portions.

38. A method of coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting structure, comprising:

applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members prior to coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a sealant;

coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;

initially curing the sealant;

positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;

radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting structure; and

finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;

wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;

wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;

wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure;

wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials; and

wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

39. A method of coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting structure, comprising:

applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the tubular members;

applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of the tubular members;

coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of tubular members;

initially curing the sealant;

positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;

radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting structure; and

finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;

wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;

wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;

wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure;

wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials; and

wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

40. An apparatus, comprising:

a preexisting structure; and

a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the preexisting structure by the process of:

applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members prior to coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a sealant;

coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;

initially curing the sealant;

positioning the tubular members within the preexisting structure;

radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting structure; and

finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;

wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;

wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;

wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure;

wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials; and

wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

41. An apparatus, comprising:

a preexisting structure; and

a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the preexisting structure by the process of:

applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the tubular members;

applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of the tubular members;

coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of tubular members;

initially curing the sealant;

positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;

radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting structure; and

finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;

wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;

wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;

wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure;

wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials; and

wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

A1 Cont.

Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No.08-1394 of Haynes and Boone, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/12/2001

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231
on February 13, 2001
Michelle Baxter